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ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

33731

FEBRUARY 1978.

CLUB MEETING ON THE FIRST FRIDAY

REPEATER MEETING ON THE THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH



**PRESIDENT C.E.(REX) Cottrell W4GPL
800 Bay Point Dr. Madeira Beach 33708
Phone 391-5158**

**EDITOR-PUBLISHER Jack Adams W4NOK
1851 66th Ave N. ST.Petersburg, 33702
Phone 525-2448**

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S P A R C G A P

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON FEBRUARY 3RD, AT 8:00 PM
RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS
818 4th Street North, St. Petersburg, Fla.

There will be lots of Public Service Activities going on in April! The big event of the year is the Festival of States Activities. Suncoaster, WB4FEN(Joe), is in charge of the communications for the Festival and has requested the help of the SPARC club.

For our Feb. 3rd. meeting Joe will present background information on the Festival activities, will have maps to show the routes and will talk on the use of 223.5MHz, 146.49 MHz and the SPARC Repeater.

This should be attended by all those members and nonmembers who intend to participate.

de WA4TJG

SPARC CHRISTMAS PARTY AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The Annual Christmas Party combined this year with the installation of officers for 1978 was held at the Gulfport Community Center on December 15, 1977. Although the evening was cold and rainy, over fifty members of SPARC and guests braved the elements and were rewarded for their bravery with good food, warm fellowship and fine gospel music.

The new slate of officers installed that evening included Rex Cottrell W4GPL, President; Betty Bellows WA4TJG, Vice President; Faith Morgan WA4WOU, Secretary; Frank Ryll W4VIP, Treasurer; and Board of Directors members: Jack Adams W4NOK, Herb Tuell W4IRA and Al Friend W4CF. Our President W4GPL took his oath of office from his hospital bed over the Club Repeater 66/06. It was good to hear you in there Rex.

The program for the evening was presented by St. Pete's own LAW MEN QUARTET. This is a gospel group that is made up of St. Petersburg Police Officers and two SPARC members Jim Bench WA4WDM and Bill Cox WA4FNY. They presented an excellent program of gospel music combining some old hymns and some new arrangements. Thank you very much LAW MEN for sharing your talents with us.

de WA4WOU

MESSAGE FROM OUR PAST PRESIDENT

1977 is over now and the time has come to thank my officers for their help and efforts and to step down as President of SPARC. It has been a good year.

I wish our new President Rex Cottrell W4GPL and the new officers all the best for a happy, healthy and successful 1978!

de

(1)

John Merada WB4LWB

SPARC GAP



THE ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ISSUES THE ABOVE CERTIFICATE
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John R. Shinkle WD4BAJ
1037 North Allendale Ave.
Sarasota, Fla. 33580

John T. Cudahy WB2WFH
5927 Burlington Ave. No.
St. Petersburg, Fla. 33710

Grady F. Lilly WB4NDT
1191 Eden Isle N.E.
St. Petersburg, Fla. 33704

James Dwyer K2QJS
Oak Crest Park- 1001 Ulmerton Rd.
Largo, Fla. 33541

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:-

Chas. Lovely
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Largo, Fla. 33540

Gene Scarbro Jr.
36 Harbor Woods Circle
Clearwater, Fla. 33519

Keith Doran
1030 32nd Ave. North
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Jack Mandel
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CALL LETTER CORRECTION:-

John Brady from WB4TPJ to N4ZY

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SPARC GAP

SPARC Repeater News

In hopes that some members will receive their SPARC GAP before the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) weekend, January 28-29, we will review the SET plans. The Pinellas County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, many members of which are also SPARC Repeater Team members, held a planning meeting at Henderson Hall January 6th. Present were John Komp WB4FTY representing Red Cross and Mr. James Smith, of Pinellas County Hospital Association.

Red Cross will be cooperating nation-wide during our SET. We can expect several messages between the Chapters, Division, Area and National Headquarters. During our local drill, 1 to 4 P.M. Sunday, January 29th, John Komp will be at the Chapter to accept incoming Red Cross traffic from our radio operators stationed at W4GAC and to initiate outgoing traffic on behalf of South Pinellas Chapter.

The Pinellas County Hospital Association has requested us to activate Amateur Radio stations at 16 hospitals. This should be an excellent exercise of our role in support of the Red Cross Disaster Organization plan which calls for us to provide emergency medical communications. Eventually we expect these hospitals to furnish antennas, operating space, and emergency power for our Amateur Radio equipment which we will carry in when needed. Apollo Medical Center has already installed their antenna and it has been tuned and checked out by WB4PNV and WA4TJG, Radio Amateurs assigned to that site. At the other hospitals, we will have to do the best we can with whatever we can bring in.

Each hospital will originate at least two messages, one of which will require a reply from another hospital. The messages will contain medical terms which may be unfamiliar to us. However, we must do our best to transmit the text exactly as written, receive it exactly as sent, and deliver it to the addressee promptly. The telephone switchboard operator will be our contact point to pick up messages for transmission and to make deliveries. Radio Amateurs will draft and transmit messages in ARRL form. Bring your own message blanks. It is suggested that pencil carbon paper be used to make a copy for your file, giving the original to the addressee.

In addition to Red Cross and hospitals, we hope to contact municipalities, county, police, fire and Civil Defense officials to inform them of the SET and solicit messages from them. Also we hope to an information sheet to the newspapers before the drill.

If you don't get your SPARC GAP before the SET, at least this tells you what we tried to do!

The Festival of States parades and Hurricane Classic offshore power boat races are coming up early in April and we understand that the St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club has been asked to provide communications. Look for additional information elsewhere in this issue and get ready for a real work-out and a fun time on this.

73 de K4SCL

SPARC GAP
ASK A SILLY QUESTION
by
ANONYMOUSE.

Dear A. Nonny:

Is it true that CB Licenses number into the millions?
Signed--Perplexed.

Dear Perplexed:- It is true. It seems great masses spring from little eggs. It appears some one laid an egg.

Dear A. Nonny:

I recently heard some one called a blather skite, what is a blather skite?

Signed--Puzzled.

Dear Puz:

Some one who is overly glib- quite often referred to as flannel mouth, motor mouth, blabber mouth, repeater timer outer.

Dear A. Nonny:

What is a mini second.

Signed--Anti Math

Dear Anti:

A mini second is a fraction of a second--Defination:- when your parked at a stop light waiting for it to turn and when it turns the nut in back starts to blow his horn.

Dear A. Nonny:

What is a decibel?

Signed--Diz-Bel.

Dear Diz.

Decibel is audio Sound measurement. For maximum measurement is when some idiot neighbor is playing his stereo or radio loud enough to entertain some one 3 blocks away.

Dear A. NONNY:

Are you supposed to be witty?

Signed--Punster

Dear Pun:

You are about half right.

DISA AND DATA

Marge & Frank Ryll recently had a get together for a meal of "Tortalings." with Minnie and John Merada. I saw Bob Merada one Saturday running around like a head with its chicken off. Bob is Pharmacist at K-Mart. Betty Bellows is going to school. Lots of Compliments on new format of SPARC GAP, CREDITS should go to George Bellows for layout, Frank Cole for picture of shack also thanks to Faith Morgan, Woody Huddleston, Betty bellows for their writings. All I do is proof read, edit, photograph, mask negativea, make plates, print, staple and in general get ready for our mailer. A big thanks to Bob Smith for the way he is handling the mailing.

de W4NOK

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PAID AD.

HELL IS NO JOKE !

Some folks say most of their friends will be there. Others say they will open an air conditioning business in hell. Just kidding? I hope so. It is easy to joke about this subject while we are enjoying our good health, and the furthest thing from our mind is where we are going to spend eternity.

What do we do to go to hell? NOTHING! Surprised? We need do nothing to go to hell because we have already done it. We all stand as guilty sinners before God, we deserve to be punished (Ezek. 18:4).

Most do not fear God today because they do not realize how awful hell is going to be. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth in hell! (Matt. 13:49,50). God also says "the smoke of their torment will ascend forever and ever (Rev. 14:10,11).

Do not feel God is harsh to allow people to go to hell. He surely does not want anyone there. God's holiness and righteousness demand that sin be punished.

You do not have to go to hell for God provided a way--ONE WAY!! Your good deeds won't do it, your church membership or regular attendance won't do it, your lodge membership won't do it. You can quit smoking, drinking, acting ugly and going to picture shows and that still won't do it.

God made it so simple that even the little children can understand. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved (John 3:16,17).



ONE WAY--JESUS--Won't you receive Him into your life today?

THOT: How far away is eternity? Put your hand on your chest--feel your heart beat. That's how far away eternity is, a heartbeat!

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SPARC GAP

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 684 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT DECEMBER 29 1977 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

On January 14 through January 22, special events station KMLCC will be operating from Cape Cod, Massachusetts, celebrating the 75th anniversary of Marconi's first transatlantic radio transmission. Operating with a 250 Hz modulated cw tone to simulate the original spark gap sound, KMLCC will be found about 50 kHz up from the bottom of all high frequency bands. Sideband operation will take place 25 kHz up from the bottom of the phone general class segments. QSL via WIGAY with an s.e.s.e. Further details page 91, January QST. AR

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 685 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT DECEMBER 22 1977 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

The composition of the five ARRL Advisory Committees for the coming year has been announced by President Dannals, W2HD. The Contest Committee chairman is W1NG, with members W2FVS K3ZO K4PJ W5MYA N6NB K7GM K8HLR K9UIY KJ/MM and VE7TT. The VHF Repeater Committee chairman is W6GO, with members W1GKT K2QPF N3AA WA4WTX K5FOG WA6LEB WA7MMC W8GRG K9LSB WB0CJX and VELAKT. The DX Committee chairman is W3ZN, with members W1OT W2KN N4MM K5LM K6AAR W7YTN WB8EJH K9AM W9UD and VE3QA. The Emergency Communications Committee chairman is W6INI, with K1UAQ N2JC WA3PZO WA4PEG WA5MLT W7DO WA8NDY W9UMH W9PB and VE5CU. The VHF/UHF Committee chairman is W1JR, with members K2RIW W3HMU WA0DJY/4 N5RA WB6NMT W7FN WA8ULG W9YF W9LER and VE3AIB. Correspondence for any of the committees may be addressed directly to the members or routed via ARRL Headquarters. AR

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 684 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT DECEMBER 15 1977 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

A major justification for the Amateur Radio Service lies in the public service rendered by amateurs. Hams will be afforded the opportunity to show what they can do in an organized public service program by participating in the annual ARRL Simulated Emergency Test. The exercise will center on the weekend of January 28-29, 1978. At that time, hams throughout the United States and Canada will be operating within emergency scenarios. Full SET details appear on pages 70-72, December QST. AR

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 607 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT JANUARY 5 1978 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

Start the new year right by sending for your 1978 ARRL Operating Events calendar. The eight and one half by eleven inch sheet details United States amateur frequency and mode allocations, license renewal information as well as dates for all ARRL operating activities and previously scheduled conventions. To obtain your free copy send an addressed envelope with thirteen cents United States postage to ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. AR



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Continued

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- 1) The equipment user may live in an area where the average television receiver has no difficulty in rejecting unwanted signals. The situation in the area may be changed by the addition of a new station nearby, or by appreciable strengthening of existing signals by increase in power of a given station. Under these conditions, the situation has changed from that of a location in the ninety-nine percent category where no special treatment of the equipment is required to that of the less than one percent category where special treatment becomes necessary.
 - 2) An equipment user may reside in an area that is in the ninety-nine percent category having no strong unwanted signals and later move into an area where strong radio signals are prevalent. The situation has then changed from that of being located in the ninety-nine percent category where special treatment of the equipment is not necessary, to the less than one percent category where special treatment is required

In most cases involving the interception of unwanted radio signals by home equipment, such as radio and television receivers, there are other factors present which contribute to the problem, e.g., lack of adequate maintenance of the receiver, antenna and transmission line. After a period of time, the overall performance of equipment generally deteriorates unless regularly serviced. Antenna connections become corroded and antenna elements bent or broken. The gradual deterioration of a reception system is not readily apparent to the untrained person. After a period of time, the quality of the desired signal is apt to become inferior and thereby make the system vulnerable to strong unwanted signals. It is important, therefore, that components of the signal receiving system be in good condition.

Information concerning the above is not necessarily widely distributed or fully recognized by all manufacturers, dealers, and servicemen. The statement of a salesman or dealer that he sells good quality equipment, or that there is nothing wrong with the unit, meaning the equipment adequately performs its intended function, is not enough and avoids the issue. Persons experiencing this problem must fully recognize the situation involved. Regardless of the quality of the equipment, special treatment of it for rejection of strong signals is essential in some localities.

You are urged to bring this information to the attention of your serviceman, dealer, or manufacturer of your equipment.

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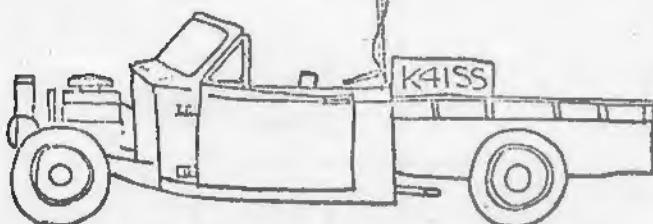
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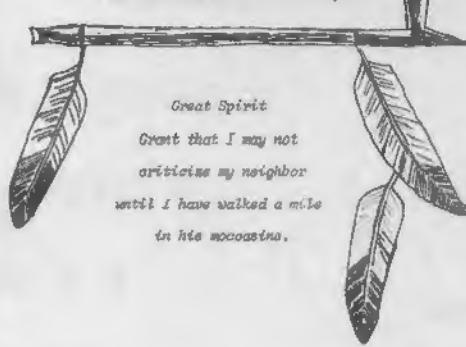
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